

# MAINE FARMER, AND JOURNAL OF THE ARTS.

"Our Home, Our Country, and Our Brother Man."

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## THE FARMER.

E. HOLMES, Editor.

### MEASURES OF GOVERNMENT.

The Editor of American Farmer proposes that the several Editors of Agricultural Journals should unite as a corps to "examine rigidly and impartially into the acts and proceedings of men entrusted with the great powers of Legislation so far as the exercise of that power is obviously calculated to promote or disparage the interests of those whose support and comforts depend on the land and the plough."

We have long thought that those who not only conduct agricultural papers, but those who practice agriculture themselves, have been and are too remiss in the duty of calling the attention of Legislators to the great and fundamental interests of Agriculture. We should have no objection in uniting our feeble efforts in the cause, could it be confined particularly to the subject of Legislative action as it regards the best interests of the farmer and consequently of the community at large—but still there are some subjects, which concern all classes, and have now become so intimately connected with the policy of one or the other of the great political parties of the day, that it would be dangerous for neutral papers to meddle with, and among them are the subjects which friend Skinner mentions as necessary to discuss, viz: "usury laws—credit system—circulating medium—subtreasury—disposition to be made of the proceeds of the public lands," &c. Now these subjects have become the very stock in trade of the political editors, and we should be trespassing upon their "vested rights" if we meddled with them. We know not how it is in the Latitude of the American Farmer, but in ours so sensitive have both political parties become, that if we should broach upon either of them we should probably be annihilated by both parties, and kicked into nonentity by friends and foes. It isn't very long since we were "blown up sky high, sir," in a neighboring print, and the public called upon to "watch" merely because we exercise the right of having a "private opinion." What would become of us if we enlisted under friend Skinner's banner, and expressed that opinion in the columns of the Farmer?

THE CULTURE OF THE BEET, AND MANUFACTURE OF BEET SUGAR, BY DAVID LEE CHILD. This is the title of a new work published by Weeks, Jordan & Co. Boston.

Mr. Child has had perhaps, more experience in the business of manufacturing sugar from beets, than any man in New England, having visited the French and German manufactures of this article and having been engaged in experimenting at Northampton upon the business of raising the beet and obtaining sugar with a view of ascertaining the practicability of conducting the business in our country with profit and success. The work is divided into three parts. 1st. Culture of the Beet. 2d. The manufacture of Beet Sugar. 3d. History and prospects of the business.

In regard to the culture it has been found that the white Silesian Beet is from 12 to 40 pounds richer in saccharine matter than any other variety. The best soil for, it is a deep, rich, sandy alluvial soil. Any soil which will answer for Indian corn will answer for the sugar beet.

It is however thought best to apply what manure you wish to enrich the soil to some previous crop, and not to the Root crop, as the various salts in the manure are often found to affect the quality of the root and vary the quantity of the sugar. The distance between

the rows should be from 18 to 20 inches, and the distance in the rows about 8 inches, having only one plant in a place.

Mr. Child mentions a fact in the growth of the beet which has not been well understood in this State.—The beet, says he, ripens earlier in the United States than in France. Some sown on the first of May 1838 dropt their leaves entirely about the first of August.—We know of one or two crops raised last year in this vicinity that shed their leaves about the same time, and it was thought to be owing to the rust. A second crop of leaves put out again, but it has been found that this second crop exhausts the sugar in the beet, and that they should therefore be gathered as soon as the leaves are dropped let it be what time of the year it may.—The following statement seems to substantiate the facts.

"Last year, 1838, beets sown the first of May, dropt their leaves entirely about the first of August, and soon after were crowned with an entire new set of leaves. On the 30th of August we procured a quantity of these beets for the purpose of ascertaining the effects accompanying these phenomena. The roots, having been cut across the grain, presented a remarkable appearance. Between the layers of the elongated cellular tissue, i. e. in the rich and pulpy parts of the root, there was a reddish brown color, resembling that which a crushed apple acquires after a short exposure to the air. The diffusion of this discoloration throughout the concentric strata, containing the vesicles of the sugar, reminded us of the appearance of clefts of a rock, into which gunpowder has been flashed.—These beets had lost their savor. They had an insipidity approaching to that of chips. Having carefully dried the slices, reduced them to powder and extracted the soluble matter, we found that they did not contain an atom of crystallizable sugar, but yield only a syrup of a dull and disagreeable taste, with scarcely a trace of saccharine. A case resembling this in effect, though it is not stated that there was a second set of leaves, is given by Chaptal, and is copied into most of the books on the beet sugar culture. The substance of it is, that in the Department of Landes in the extreme south of France, a gentleman, being about to start a beet sugar factory, experimented on his beets every eight days from the first of July to the last of August, and constantly obtained three to four per cent. of good sugar. Feeling now sure of his crop, he discontinued his experiments, and devoted himself exclusively to the completion of his sugar-house and apparatus. But what was his astonishment and dismay, when on recurring to his beets towards the end of October, he found that they yielded syrup and salt-petre, but not a particle of sugar."

The amount of crops per acre varies from ten to fifteen tons and the cost is estimated to vary not far from forty dollars.

"At present we know no account of the actual cost of cultivating beets in the United States. We have seen a number of estimates, based on more or less practice, and the great agreement which we find among them, satisfies us that the general result may be relied on. They are all very near \$40 an acre. The lowest is \$35 and the highest \$44. The following is from a farmer of Northampton, [Mr. Hiram Ferry] who has had the advantage of several years' experience in raising the sugar-beet."

Rent and manure	\$18 00
Ploughing and harrowing	2 00
Carting manure	1 00
Seed and planting	2 00
First hoeing	3 00
Second do. and thinning	5 00
Third do.	3 00
Digging and carting, or pitting	8 00

Total \$42 00

Mr. Chandler of this town makes the cost of his crop \$19,00 per acre.

The second part as we have before stated, gives the process of manufacture and is much the most interesting part of the work. The mode of culture is soon

learned but the obtaining sugar from the root when raised, requires skill. It is a trade to be learned by practice and like every other art is aided by experience in the practice. Mr. Child has given a minute and particular account of the various modes adopted, and gives also, drawings of the different kinds of apparatus with calculations of the expense. We could not give our readers an account of this without infringing upon the copyright. The following extract will be interesting to our readers and serve as an answer to a question which is often asked.

Too much has been said of the manufacture of beet sugar in a small way, to permit us to pass this topic in silence. There can be no doubt of the practicability of making beet sugar on any required scale from 1 lb. to 10,000 lbs. per day, but it cannot be made on any scale with profit without considerable skill and experience. Also, the larger the scale, provided it do not exceed the limits of good management, the greater will be the profit. But this constitutes no objection to the household or domestic manufacture of beet sugar; because it is well known that many manufacturers may be carried on in families by the aid of women and children, and in the idle season of the year, to the great advantage of individuals and the country, though the same would be ruinous to the regular manufacturer. The most of our New England farming, if considered as an object of capitalists, and hired labor, instead of being executed by the yeomanry and their sons and daughters, would be intolerable.

On the other hand, owing to want of skill or of suitable apparatus, no farmer or other person in Europe has given us a satisfactory example of the production of beet sugar, as a household manufacture, suited to become auxiliary to agriculture, however limited. Yet this is a cherished aim of the writers, and of the public sentiment of France.

There is no efficient apparatus, which is simple and cheap enough to suit the purpose of common farmers. Yet we believe that the time will come when sugar-mills will be set up by the more forehanded of our farmers, as cider-mills now are; and that sugar-beets, which may be produced by those who cannot afford to build a mill, will be carried to their neighbors and worked up on shares, or at a certain rate in money on the amount of material or of product, as cider is made among us, and as wine is made in the French communes. In the East, there are itinerant sugar-makers, who are provided with a movable apparatus, which they establish under a bamboo shed in a given neighborhood, and work up the canes, as the cultivators bring them in. Mr. Nosarewski suggests this as a practicable mode of domesticating the beet sugar manufacture in Poland, in connexion with his system of drying the beet.

The question of the small and household manufacture of beet sugar, is one which we are not prepared to resolve. The country must first acquire confidence and some skill in the business. Above all it must be disabused of the notion that the business can be conducted without any skill. By the time that these preliminary objects are attained, experience will suggest the ways and means of effectuating the wishes of the people. We have no hesitation in adding that, if we had the management of a farm and the rearing and fattening of stock, we would try a small beet sugar-mill, even if all the improvements announced or projected should prove to be moonshine. The advantages which such an appendage is capable of yielding on either of the old French plans, imperfect as these confessedly are, would be a precious boon to American farmers.

To one of these who has turned his thoughts to this subject the question will occur,—'How would you go to work in such a case?'

We should adopt the grater and presses, mainly because the pulp coming from these is better for feed.—This opinion does not militate with that which we have expressed in favor of the macerator, for that was in reference to large works, capable of making at least 1500 lbs. of sugar per day. But even in this case we should in some localities prefer the grater and presses.

We should make our own grater with a little assistance from a carpenter or millwright. The expense in money, including sawplates, arbor and pulleys, would



be about \$10. We should also construct with so much assistance as might be necessary, a power for a horse or ox, which should give the movement to the grator and presses. This we estimate at \$40, including communicating machinery.

For presses we should take two old screws, either of wood or iron, as we could light upon them, and construct frames, followers, &c. with some assistance as before. These, at \$20 apiece, would be \$40. For sacks we should use coarse unbleached cotton, bur-lap, or old coffee bags. We should thus obtain 75 of these, and a dozen more of twilled cotton or of duck for scums and sediment, for about \$12. For hurdles we should purchase champaign baskets, and take the lids, reserving the other part for draining the sugar, made by reboiling molasses, and for other uses in and about the workshop, \$15.

2 defecating pans of 30 gallons each, \$24. 2 concentrating pans of 75 gallons each, \$50. 1 boiler of 50 gallons, \$20. 1 cooler, \$15. Brick, mason's work and grates for furnaces, \$50.

We should purchase quarter wine casks, and cut off one end, leaving on the other part all the bulge hoops. The ends thus cut off being furnished with a top hoop thick enough to lay hold on and lift by, make excellent vessels for receiving and transvasing juice and syrup. The large parts are good filtering boxes, 6 of which with towels and strainers to correspond, would cost \$12, including the tubs.

A small kiln and 20 crucibles for manufacturing and revivifying animal black, would cost \$75; and 30 crystalizers on the plan of Payen, \$15. Ladle, skimmer and basin, \$5.

#### Recapitulation.

Grater	\$10 00
Horsepower	40 00
2 presses	40 00
87 sacks	12 00
80 hurdles	15 00
2 defecating pans	24 00
2 concentrating pans	50 00
Boiler	20 00
5 furnaces	50 00
Cooler	15 00
Filtering boxes	12 00
Kiln and crucibles	75 00
Crystalizers	15 00
Basin, skimmer and ladle	5 00
Contingent expenses	20 00
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$403 00</b>

With this apparatus, 2 men and 2 boys, or a man, woman, and 2 boys or girls, would work up 1 ton of beets, and make 100 lbs. of sugar in a day. The pulp would feed 4 oxen, 6 cows and 30 sheep. During 3 months beginning the middle of October and ending the middle of January, they could work up the produce of 5 acres, and make 7800 lbs. of raw sugar.—This at 6 cents a pound would be

Pulp and molasses, used on the premises for feeding and fattening cattle and sheep	\$468 00
<b>Total income, exclusive of manure</b>	<b>\$623 00</b>
<b>Expenses.</b>	
Rent, interest and wear of apparatus	\$70 00
Beets	156 00
Labor	170 00
Fuel and light	100 00
Bones	30 00
Chemicals	5 00
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$521 00</b>

**Net profit** \$107 00

Thus a farmer, after deducting his own board and wages, and those of any member of his family, or other person employed in the work, and paying the interest of the investment, and all other expenses, would have above 100 dollars, clear gain, besides the important advantage of preparing his land by the beet culture for superior crops of grain; and doubling his stable manure, if he chose to increase his live stock, to fat some of it, and consume all his winter feed on the place. If he continued the manufacture until the 1st of March, as it would be worth while to do, for the sake of the pulp, though the sugar would be one or two per cent. less, the profit would be considerably increased.

We recommend to every one who feels an interest in the success of the Beet culture to purchase this work, as it contains a greater amount of information upon this subject than he can obtain any where else for the same amount of money, (four shillings.) It is written in a plain and concise style, and we doubt not will be the means of promoting the sugar manufacture among us,—a manufacture which, while it will be of much profit to the farmer in a variety of ways, will also render us independent of foreign countries for an article of daily consumption, and one which is now reckoned as one of the necessities of life.

Original.

#### DEPOSITION OF DEW AND FROST.

MR. HOLMES:—In the 25th No. of the last vol. of the Farmer, after gravely remarking how ignorant many are, (and I doubt not truly,) of the principles of the deposition of dew, you proceed to give us some instruction in the form of remarks on certain experiments of a certain Dr. Wells of England. He, you say, ascertained the cause of the deposition of moisture in the form of dew, to be the radiation or throwing off [perhaps off] the heat imbibed by [probably from] the sun, which thus cools the air which comes in contact with it, and causes the moisture which was in the air to be condensed. It would seem, from your remarks, your intention to introduce this as a *new theory*, in distinction from what you call the *old*, that it is owing to the air alone becoming colder. I think you omit a very important distinction here. We all know that a few drops of water, (say dew if you please,) deposited in a hot iron vessel will instantly pass off by evaporation; and so of any other substances on which rain or dew may fall by the force of gravitation, unless retained by some counteracting principle, if any such exists. The process needed no labored experiment to prove it; even the way-faring man, though a fool, may demonstrate it. I see nothing new in this theory; nor am I acquainted with any old theory which is founded on the assumed fact that dew will be retained, falling on any substance which has imbibed free caloric enough to repel it. Making this distinction, between depositing and retaining, the Doctor's theory amounts to nothing more than what has long been taught by the ablest writers on natural philosophy.

As to the Doctor's experiments, I think them very faulty, even for the purpose of illustrating the process of depositing and retaining moisture in the form of dew. Some substances imbibe moisture with more avidity than others; hence we find distinguished chemists use dry cotton, not wool or swadown, to retain the aqueous vapor passing off during the effervescence occasioned by the contact of acid with the carbonate of lime, when they wish for precision. It must be clear to any one that the first descent of aqueous vapor near the table must be minute, and that the table being very dry would imbibe this in preference to the wool or swadown. But it does not appear, though the wool and the swadown were carefully weighed, that the Doctor ever thought of weighing his table to ascertain whether the table had imbibed any moisture. I might mention other particulars in which his experiments are equally faulty; but I wish not to appear captious, and so I pass along. The Doctor certainly seems industrious, which is more than we can say of all Doctors.

You remark also, "that grass parts with its caloric faster than sand or gravel, hence it has more dew upon it." I doubt the truth of the first proposition in this sentence and the inference also. The Doctor it seems ascertained the difference between the temperature of the grass and the air 4 feet above the ground when he weighed the wool and swadown the second time; but he, or you forget to tell us what this difference was, when the experiment commenced; and for aught we know from the statement, might not have radiated any caloric at all. But my experience teaches me that aqueous vapor sometimes moves horizontally in strata. I saw once a remarkable illustration of this fact. Passing in early autumn many years ago in Massachusetts, through a piece of pine plain land, after an early frost, I noticed in opening where the growth of pine had been cut off some years previous. A growth of shrub oaks had succeeded of some few feet in height and standing very thick. At the height of some three or four feet from the ground, the leaves were totally killed; whilst those below were as green as ever. This must be owing to one of two causes; either a strata of cold air occasioned a deposit of frost at that height, or else a current and strata of aqueous vapor had passed through the tract so near the ground as to melt the frost without injuring the leaves. The space between the dead and living leaves was almost as distinctly marked as though a line had been drawn and the process effected by art.

It is a fact which may be demonstrated, that at such times as the main currents of air, seem entirely lulled asleep, that numerous small currents or eddies are more or less in motion, though unheeded by us. And it is equally true that strata of aqueous vapor, sometimes of only a few inches in depth, are carried along by these currents. Now if one of those should be passing a few inches above the ground it is obvious that dew enough might be deposited and retained on the top of the grass to be visible, though none should be seen on the sand or gravel; even supposing the temperature the same, and their powers for absorbing the moisture alike.

A few words on the Doctor's theory respecting the clouds reflecting back the heat (caloric) like the bright tin of the top of a baker. I can hardly tell whether you mean to endorse this sentiment or not, and it is of little consequence who does. If it is a fact that aqueous vapor has this property, it may be demonstrated; and if it is so, it must be of vast use in domestic economy. I wonder if Nebuchadnezzar had not some such

contrivance to throw back the heat of his furnace and increase its intensity. If this be true, what folly must many of our economists be guilty of when they tell us about the aqueous matter in green wood escaping up chimney, and carrying off the caloric in a latent state.

As my sheet is almost full, I must suspend my remarks on the formation and deposition of frost to some future time.

J. H. J.

P. S. I hope none of your correspondents will suspect me of being "wolfish," or "losing my ballance," for I certainly feel very good natured. As for you and me, I believe we never felt otherwise towards each other.

NOTE. We agree with our old friend J. H. J. in his last remark if we do not in some of his opinions in his communication. We at present feel so exceedingly good natured that we are willing he should deposit the dews and frosts just as he pleases. He may cool the earth or cool the air, or cool them both, provided he keeps cool himself. We will publish what we can find upon each side of the question under the head of "Gleanings," to which we would refer our friend for further light upon the subject.

Ed.

#### GLEANINGS

IN THE ARTS AND PRACTICAL SCIENCES.

CAUSE OF DEW. The discovery of Dufay remained a barren fact, until the attention of Dr. Wells was directed to the subject. He argued that, as a clear and cloudless sky radiates little or no heat towards the surface of the earth, all objects placed on the surface which are good radiators, must necessarily fall in temperature during the night, if they be in a situation in which they are not exposed to the radiation of other objects in their neighborhood. Grass and other products of vegetation, are in general good radiators of heat. The vegetation which covers the ground in an open champaign country on a clear night, will therefore undergo a depression of temperature, because it will absorb less heat than it radiates.

The vegetables which thus acquire a lower temperature than the atmosphere, reduce the air immediately contiguous to them to a temperature below saturation, and a proportionately copious condensation of vapor takes place, and a deposition of dew is formed on the leaves and flowers of all vegetables. In fact every object, in proportion as it is a good radiator receives a deposition of moisture. On the other hand, objects which are bad radiators are observed to be free from dew. Blades of grass sustain large pellucid dew drops, while the naked soil in their neighborhood is free from them.—Lar. in. Cyclop. Hydros.

UPON HEAT, AND ITS CONNECTION WITH THE PHENOMENA OF THE DEW.—Of Heat, in its nature, substantiality, or immateriality, we really know little or nothing. We may define terms, and conjecture with Lavoisier (as he stated in his memoir in 1777) that it is a *material substance*—for after attentively considering the phenomena of attraction and repulsion, he conceived it "difficult to comprehend these phenomena without admitting them as the effects of a real material substance, or very *subtle fluid*, which, insinuating itself between the particles of bodies, separates them from each other." To this substance, the renowned father of modern chemistry applied the name of *igenous fluid*, (from *ignis*—Latin for fire;) and the *matter of heat*. Subsequently, in conjunction with other chemists, his great condutors, with a view of rejecting "all periphrastic expressions," he distinguished "the cause of heat, or that exquisitely elastic fluid which produces it, by the term *Caloric*."—(Calor, heat.)

We may admit these conjectures—or with Dr. Young, the philosopher, we may doubt the theory of the modern school. He believed that the production of heat by friction, appeared to afford an unanswerable confutation of the whole doctrine. "If the heat is neither received from the surrounding bodies, which it cannot be without a *depression of their temperature*, nor derived from the quantity already accumulated in the bodies themselves, which it could not be, even if their capacities were diminished in any imaginable degree, there is no alternative but to allow that heat *must be generated by friction*: and if it is *generated out of nothing*, it cannot be *matter*, nor even an immaterial or semi-material substance."

Difficulties surround the subject on every hand; and to remove them, I conceive we can only apply—philosophically—to the *source of heat*; for source it has but one. The sun is the object to which we must turn our minds; and therein we shall at least obtain some solid cause for satisfaction. We may not be able to conjecture what this glorious luminary really is,—and we may find ourselves at a loss to conceive the nature of his substance, or what is the agency by which he radiates light and heat to the planetary system.



but still, we feel assured that we have *reality* before us—that we see an effulgent orb, which our senses assure us is ever pouring forth streams of light and life. Now, from the beginning of time, the sun has sent his beams to the earth, and though we have fair reason to conclude that they produce no *positive heat* till they strike upon a decomposable reflecting substance, yet the beams are the operative, efficient cause of heat. From the period of the first ray to the passing moment of time present, not a particle of light has been wasted or extinguished: the traceable analogy of all nature confirms, I think, this assertion. The light not reflected, is absorbed by all substances upon which it impinges, and effects electro-chemical decompositions, becoming itself perhaps decomposed. The HEAT which is manifested by fermenting substances, by chemical mixtures, by acts of friction, and which is *felt* but *not seen*, is an effect produced by the play of affinities operated by the agency of absorbed solar light: the whole theory of *latent heat* is based upon this fact.

THAT which at any time, or by any means, becomes revealed must have existed, must have had an origin. I ask the candid reader then, whether the emanations from the sun, the effulgence which has beamed upon the earth for thousands of years, do not offer a more rational solution of all the phenomena of heat, than that which is attempted to be given by the theory that "the earth and each planet belonging to this system, is furnished with the necessary portion of *caloric*, and the rays of the sun elicit the native caloric which is inherent in them, and occasion what is called heat." (See Parke's Rudiments, No. 50—60, &c.) I shall not enlarge in an enquiry which must be referred to the action of *Light*—and will be pursued in a future paper. I do not deny that heat may lie hidden and masked throughout nature; but I conceive that in whatever state it exists, whether latent or revealed, it is an effect produced by the agency of the sun beams, that have been, and continue to be, absorbed; and not a material essence, *Sui-generis*, which is integral with the substance of matter and independent of solar agency.

Heat is said to *radiate* from the surface of the earth, and this radiation connected with the aqueous vapor which exists in the air, is the direct cause of the deposition of the dew.

Upon this subject in order to present some clear idea of the received theory, I must quote a few lines from the work of the late Doctor Wells.

"Heat—it is observed—is *radiated by the sun* to the earth, and if suffered to accumulate would quickly destroy the present constitution of the globe. This evil is prevented by the radiation of heat from the earth to the heavens, during the night, when it receives from them little or no heat in return. The surface of the earth having thus become colder than the neighboring air condenses a part of the watery vapor of the atmosphere into *dew*. This fluid appears chiefly where it is most wanted, on herbage and low plants, avoiding in a great measure, rocks, bare earth, and considerable masses of earth."

I must stop here to make a remark or two; for the foregoing observations contain much of truth, and more that has merely a plausible appearance of truth. The surface of the earth *does* become, at times colder than the air about it—this is a fact; but herein there is an evident departure from the ordinary law that governs the distribution of heat; for bodies of different degrees of temperature when brought into contact, tend mutually to *equalise* the temperature of each: heat will be attracted from the one, and then it may be said to radiate heat to the other; but the heated body will not thereby be so deprived of its heat as to become *colder* than the one which acted upon it: the attraction and radiation will proceed, till both bodies become of *equal temperature*. If then, the air become cooled by the absence of solar light, and the surface of the ground be thereby excited to radiate the heat it had received, it ought to do so, till it be cooled down to the temperature of the air, and no lower: But if—as indeed is the fact—the surface—especially that covered by herbage—become *cooler* than the air, then there must be some agency in operation which is not manifested by the received theory: in other words, the reasoning made us of will not fully explain or elucidate the phenomena to which it is applied. The act of radiation implies a power that is concealed, and therefore very difficult to be appreciated; still however, it is known that, living vegetable bodies rank among the best conductors of *electricity*: they become sooner dewed; but they do not, by any means, appear to be active *radiators of heat* naturally. This conduction therefore, of heat, seems to depend upon that agency which stimulated the flow of the vegetable currents,—the electric vital fluid which induces the ascent of the sap;—and if so, then, that radiation which brings down the temperature of the

vegetable body below that of the surrounding air, is an *electrical phenomenon*.

A covering of clouds is inimical to the deposition of dew. Dr. Wells argues that dews appear only on calm, clear, nights, and that very little is ever deposited in opposite circumstances, and that little, only when clouds are very high. Dew is never seen in nights both cloudy and windy; and if, in the course of the night, the weather from being serene, should become dark and stormy, *dew which had been deposited, will disappear*. When warmth of atmosphere is compatible with clearness, as is the case in southern latitudes, though seldom in our country, the dew becomes much more copious, because the air then contains much more moisture.

The first part of this paragraph contains much truth, because it simply describes an effect; as to the cause, we must look for it in that which induces radiation. In a clear state of the atmosphere, cold generally increases, and dew is deposited. By some secret agency, the electrical surfaces are I think, changed. The ground is in one case the *attractor*, and as the source of heat is *etherial fire*, that fire is first attracted by the points of the vegetable bodies;—those prime and most active conductors; and in this act, the particles of vapor are deprived of that fluid which had kept them in a state of repulsion—they coalesce by the abstraction of their electricity, and are deposited upon the conducting herbage; particularly,—and most copiously,—upon its pointed terminations. This conducting power, possessed in so intense a degree by grass, and living vegetables, will explain why the surface of the ground becomes *coldest* in their immediate vicinity—for they abstract all the *etherial fire* from the air immediately in contact with them. But as they are only the instruments, and not the causes of the phenomenon, some mighty agent induces, as before stated, a change in the *ærial* region, and renders that region the *attracting surface by producing a stratum or body of clouds*; the vapors then, are drawn upwards: the *etherial matter* in the opposite surface of the ground, under the clouds, is poured forth—*still through the herbage as its conducting medium*,—renders that surface warmer, attenuates the watery deposit upon the points of plants, and bears it upward in the form of vapors, which join, and congregate with the attracting stratum of clouds.

The second part of the paragraph asserts that when warmth is compatible with clearness, the dew becomes very copious. This seems to be an assumption of a fact that occasionally may be, and is, in conformity with the order of nature, but which is by no means generally so. In very dry summers, the dew rapidly diminished: in 1818, when the temperature at night ranged between 60 and 70 degs. for weeks together, scarcely any dew was deposited. Confirmed drought, perfect clearness, and *high temperature, by day and night*, were unproductive of dews, though the evaporation must have been at its maximum. In fact, air,—heavy air,—was the concomitant; the barometer was almost constantly above 30 inches, and proved the weight of the atmospheric column. Even in the present arid spring, the dews amount (where my means of observation extend, at least,) to little or nothing; not to one-fourth of that quantity in which they are deposited in ordinary, showery springs, during the fine intervals.

Dr. Wells observed that a very thin, and slight covering, even a muslin handkerchief, stretched at a few inches above the surface of the ground, retained much warmth;—thus, "one night when the fully exposed grass was 11 degs. colder than the air, the sheltered grass was 3 degs. warmer;"—from these, and other facts, some philosophers—Dr. Wells particularly—have inferred that—the formation of dew is the *consequence of radiation*,—that cold is the cause of dew, and not dew of cold; and it is always found, during the formation of dew, that the surface of the ground is colder than the circumjacent air, owing to its radiation of heat into the atmosphere. The best radiators are soonest dewed; hence, grass and vegetables are more quickly covered with dew than gravel stones or metals; and as the earth dissipates its heat by *radiation*, it will be seen that any *slight awning* spread over the ground will prevent radiation, and keep the earth warm." "Bodies become colder than the neighboring air before they are dewed: and as different bodies project heat with different degrees of force—in the operation of this principle, conjoined with the power of a *concave mirror of clouds* or any other awning, to reflect, or throw down again those calorific emanations which would be dissipated in a clear sky, we shall find a solution of the most mysterious phenomenon of dew."

In the last few lines with inverted commas the reader will find a condense of Dr. Well's theory, and in the preceding part of the paragraph, that of other reasoners.

It may be proper to remark that, in the same principle of radiation is to be traced the protecting power of a covering over fruit-trees in early spring.

I agree with these authorities in as far as effects are discernable; but I seek a *cause*,—an active agent—which cannot be discovered in their theories. I therefore retain the same opinion which I expressed some years ago, and must now shortly recur to it; and thus, bring the long paper to a close.

I do not question, or doubt, that radiation takes place from heated surfaces, whenever a cooler medium acts upon those surfaces; the ground, whether it be a sandy desert, or a meadow richly clad with verdure, will radiate heat; but how comes it to pass that the latter will become *colder* than the atmosphere which surrounds it?

The radiation alluded to in the theory is supposed to be produced by vegetable organised bodies, and to result from a faculty which they possess of carrying off heat from the earth. But before the reader yields his unqualified assent to this begging of a question, he should reflect upon the peculiar structure of the radiators, and the wonderful electric agencies which are ever in active operation. Vegetables, including herbage, shrubs, and trees,—every pointed termination of their leaves, and their terratures, every leaflet, every prickle and bristle,—all these perform some important offices in the economy of nature: they are "the best of radiators, and become soonest dewed"—but at the same time—be it remembered—they constitute an assemblage of so many points, which are the *very best of electrical conductors*; and, probably depend upon the agency of electricity for the propulsion, laboration and distribution of their own vital and secreted fluids.

Why should trees and herbage condense such a vast volume of water? Why should a spot of freshly digged ground be covered with *hoar-frost*, when hard, unwrought ground discovers not one particle of frosty rime, unless it be on spots where some weed or projecting point be standing above the surface? let those answer these questions with calmness, and by philosophical reasoning, who persist in believing that radiation, without any other exciting cause, effects these miracles! I hesitate not to suggest that the proximate cause of the precipitation of the dew must be referred to the peculiar structure of vegetable bodies,—a structure which constitutes them, individually and collectively, not only perfect instruments of electric conduction, but also an assemblage of myriads of points at which the ascending and descending electrical currents meet and neutralise each other, in exact conformity with the laws of electric induction,—depositing the aqueous particles which, till then, they had held in a state of repulsion, or of infinitely minute division. It does not appear that grass and herbage are endued with the power of radiating or conducting heat in a degree by any means equal to that of *metals*—substances which, it is said, *do not become dewed*, at a time, and under circumstances wherein the circumjacent herbage is covered with minute drops of water,—a fact which is not only very remarkable in itself, but one which affords convincing proof that plants *do not become dewed*, solely, by their power or radiating heat.

The mysterious phenomena of the Dew and its disappearance, can therefore be solved, by referring them to the conjoint attraction of the *etherial electric essence of light*, in the earth and atmosphere. How this acts, our limited powers of perception may never be able to detect; but in its operation we find a beautiful, and never-failing instrument of attraction, repulsion, condensation and attenuation. We view thereby, *heat* as an effect, produced by the chemical energy of this all pervading *etherial fluid*: all is harmonious—all is in conformity with fact and experience, and all is magnificent. We therein see how important is the agency of the atmosphere, not only as a vehicle of respiration, but as the solvent of watery vapors, as part of which it simply holds in solution, while that which would be redundant, it assimilates with itself. We see also the beauty and exquisite adaptation of the vegetable organisation, which fits it to be the medium of conduction between the earth and air; in the performance of which, the structure itself is enlarged and its parts developed by growth. I shall not amplify now, for as all must, I conceive, be referred to the agency of light, I shall reserve what remains to be said, to the article which I shall devote to the consideration of that primary and most mighty agent.

London Hort. Register.

Grasshoppers in Winter.—Mr. Samuel Woodruff of Enfield, Conn. has sent to the editor of the Hartford Courant, a box of grasshoppers, collected the 23d of Feb. They were of different colors, destitute of wings, and as lively as crickets.





## ORIGINAL COMMUNICATIONS.

## COMPARATIVE VALUE OF ROOTS.

MR. HOLMES:—In answer to your old Farmer's queries, which he wished answered in No. 8, vol. 8, of the Farmer, respecting the worth of roots compared with good English hay, corn, &c. &c. I would say that I consider 50 bushels of Ruta Baga turnips for stock, in the hands of a farmer who knows a thing or two about feeding, as your correspondent expresses it, equal to a ton of hay, when fed with a ton of the latter;—and that six hundred bushels well cleaned, is an average crop of turnips on an acre of soil when well dressed, not forgetting to use ashes freely as a top dressing,—which, calling 64 pounds a bushel, is 36,400 lbs.; which sum, divided by 2,000, the number of pounds in a ton, is 18 tons 400 lbs. to the acre. 3,100 lbs. of turnips is equal to a ton of hay, which is nearly equal to 12 tons, on an acre. Of course they are equal to 120 bushels of corn, calling ten bushels of corn equal to a ton of hay, but I suppose 8 bushels are equal to a ton.

From this data an old Farmer may make his calculations as to Barley, Wheat, &c. I have considered Ruta Baga of about an average worth among other roots for stock; some think potatoes are worth more per bushel—carrots and sugar beets no doubt are—Flat or round turnips less.

My experience shows that no kind of turnips do well on wet land, nor very dry, nor in time of drouth, nor will any other kind of roots, not even potatoes. I am aware that many farmers suppose that Ruta Bagas properly fed by an experienced farmer, with hay and straw, are worth as much, pound for pound, as English hay, but I doubt this; therefore I have made my calculation as above. I hope others will give their views on this subject.

When I hear a farmer, about to sell his farm, as I have of late, recommend it as a very profitable and good one because he mows on it 40 tons of English hay, I enquire of him, how many acres do you mow over to obtain your 40 tons? He answers that considerable of his mowing is 'run out' as we call it; of course he has to mow over nearly 40 acres, and this in the heat of summer—giving hired hands one dollar per day and found, &c. My reply is that I want no better evidence of his being a slave, and that his mowing land, at what hay is generally worth in the market in Kennebec County, will run you out and bankrupt you. I have known this to be done. This course should be changed or you are ruined as a farmer. Occupy two or three acres, more or less, with root crops, as you can procure manure and top dressing and the like—set your plough to work, raise wheat, barley, Buckwheat, &c. if your land is arable; if not, drain it, let it go for pasturage—anything, sir, but mowing 40 acres,—it will destroy you.

T. F. C.

## CROPS.—1839.

(Continued.)

"By experiments—no matter how—  
He found that ten chariots weighed less than one plough;

A first water diamond, with brilliants begirt,  
Than one good potato just washed from the dirt."

Jane Taylor.

The several statements on crops by the premium competitors at the last Kennebec Cattle Show, as published in some two or three late Nos. of the Farmer, are not among the least interesting matter that has met my eye in this valuable paper of late. I do think such communications tend to do good; and for myself, should be quite glad—and doubt not that others might be too—to see other like communications in the columns of the Farmer even from those that did not choose to enter the list for a prize. If farmers would grow wise in the art of growing crops, they should be liberal in extending such intelligence among "their own dear selves." In continuation of former observations on crops, I propose to add in this letter, a few, in the first place on

POTATOES.—Planted two pieces. The first of an acre in quantity was cropped with oats in 1833 and ploughed late in November of the same year, and again ploughed in the spring, (4th of May,) and slightly harrowed—furrowed 3 feet apart in rows east and west, and planted the 10th and 11th of May. The hills in the rows were made about 2½ feet apart. On one half planted 11 bushels long red potatoes, and in the other 9 1-2 bushels pink-eyes—no manure used—ploughed

two shoal furrows in a row, turning each from the row and hoed them the 18th of June, and again ploughed two like furrows in a row, observing to turn them to the rows and hoed the 9th of July. Dug from the 1st to the 7th of Oct.—Got 80 bushels pink-eyes, and 118 red ones. This piece canted to the West, and was a slaty gravelly soil. The other piece of 1 1-2 acres exclusive of several ledges in the area of it—(soil also slaty and canting to the West and North and the lower edge East,) was broke up in the fall of 1837 and cropped with wheat and barley each separately; ploughed thoroughly in the fall, and in the spring slightly harrowed, 15 loads of 35 bushels each of strawy manure spread on and ploughed in. Furrowed some distance apart and same direction of the other. Planted the first of June, all excepting the West, and that the 5th of June—hills same distance between in the rows as the others. The 3d day of July, having got set and started pretty well (there was no lack of this last year,) I ploughed among them, two furrows in a row, turning from the hills, which threw the dirt into a ridge between the rows, completely burying the weeds under; and on the 15th, 16th and 17th, ploughed again and hoed them, reversing the furrows as in the other piece. No weeds started afterwards.—Dug from the 7th to the 9th of October,—had 284 bushels. I should have noticed I used on this piece 35 bushels seed, mostly pink-eyes. The West part produced a very small yield. The first piece produced much better than the last, although it had no manure on it; this might, however, be owing to the wetness of the season, or to the fact, the last was destroyed by the rust or blight which took them somewhere about the 20th of August.

CORN.—My corn ground being joined to the last mentioned piece of potatoes, was like situated and managed—ploughed, harrowed, &c. in the same manner, up to the time of planting. It contained 14 acres, perhaps a little large, as in measuring I made some allowance for a number of ledges in it. Spread on and ploughed in 8 loads of coarse manure—furrowed East and West, rows 3 1-2 feet apart—dropped 15 loads manure in the hill, and planted the 28th of May. Ploughed among it in the same manner as I did the potatoes. Hoed the 26th of June, ashed the 27th, and again hoed the 11th of July. Harvested the 27th and 28th of September. Had 75 bushels corn and 300 bushels pumpkins. I should think the great storm of August 31st, damaged it 10 bushels and the growth of pumpkins lessened the crop 10 or 15 bushels more.

In manuring this piece I used to drop in the hill two loads that was gleaned from under a ground mow in the barn, being a compound of rotten straw and wood, mixed with a portion of nitrous earth, which had been collecting there some dozen years or more. It was thrown into one of the floors some time before haying time and suffered to lay there till housing time for cattle, when it was hauled into the field and dropped in a pile, and in order to make it about equal to common barn-yard manure I cleared out the pig-pen some time in April, and obtained about half a load which I spread on the top of said pile. It was so light and strawy, I did not suppose it would do much good, but as I was rather short of manure I imagined it would do better than none, so it was used. The result disappointed me. It came up well and grew the best of any in the field. Although it was planted beside some others that were dressed with manure taken from the hog-pen and privy, the difference in favor of it could be seen as far as the rows could be distinguished. Now what caused this difference? I am inclined to the opinion that the nitre with which this must have been highly impregnated, was the leading cause, joined perhaps with the lightness of it, (being as it was a wet season and the ground consequently fallen heavy) which kept the earth open about the roots of the plants. This is my notion about the matter. Manures, I think should always be well pulverized and as light as possible when put in the hill.

These were my principal cultivated crops. I will now append an abstract of the average cost per bushel, cash of the several kinds. All the expenditures in this estimate are included, excepting the use of the ground.

Wheat crop, cash per bushel,	\$1.43c.
Barley (1st pce.) do do	31c.
Do. (2d) do do	57c.
Oats (1st) do do	30c.
Do. (2d) do do	32 2-3c.
Potatoes (1st) do do	9 1-2c.
Do. (2d) do do	13c.
Corn, do do	24c.

In this calculation the manure used is put down at half price, and from the total cost of the corn crop, is deducted \$10, the value of 300 bushels of pumpkins. The straw of the grain is allowed to be worth enough to pay for the thrashing; as also the corn fodder enough to pay for harvesting the corn.

Should I farm it another year, I think I shall be able to make some improvements by the light of experience of the last. (Who can't?) I think I shall sow my wheat late, say about the 20th of May. My oats (to ensure heavy ones) earlier if possible. And above all I am endeavoring to increase my stock of manure—shall plant less and manure more. I want 50 loads of manure per acre, well incorporated with the soil by plough and harrow.

B. F. W.

West Sidney, Feb. 1840.

## OUR NEXT SUMMER'S BUSINESS.

MR HOLMES:—It seems highly proper that farmers should now be laying out their business for the coming season. And as our season for labor, in the tillage part of husbandry, is very short with us, it seems especially necessary, that we should have every thing done by way of preparation that is possible. If wooden fences are to be set in the spring the posts should be morticed, the rails fitted ready to put in the posts &c. If buildings are to be erected, economy of time requires that the timber and boards should be collected, and every thing done that can be, while the ground is covered with snow, or frozen, so that the farmer cannot be moving the plough or hoe.

But, more especially, is it necessary, that the farmer should have a judicious plan of operations for the more busy part of the year. To do this he must settle well in his mind, what crops are the best adapted to the several varieties of his soil—the crops which give him the greatest net profit, and the means he possesses, or has within his control for performing all his operations.

The first and most important step, to render his plans successful, seems a fixed determination to keep his several most important operations arranged in such a manner, that with the ordinary smiles of Providence they do not interfere with each other. To this end, he must allow (as the sailors say) proper leeway. That is, he must afford something for hindrances and casualties which cannot be foreseen. For instance, if he can plough what he intends for the spring tillage in a week, he may allow seven or eight days in his calculations and perhaps something more for stormy weather &c. And then if his dependence is partially on other people for aid he has additional reasons to be cautious in calculating.

And besides all this, he ought to have a reserved fund, for extreme cases of disappointments either in cash, or something very near equal to it. He or his family may be sick in the busiest part of the season, when a few dollars might be of the most essential service in procuring that aid which is indispensable in such cases. In fact a farmer on the smallest scale ought always to have a few dollars by him for contingencies.

J. H. J.

Peru, Feb. 1840

## CULTIVATION OF INDIAN WHEAT AND BARLEY.

MR HOLMES:—I have heretofore given the results of some experiments in raising this kind of grain; and still further experiments give me no reason to alter my opinion of it with respect to the amount which may be raised, or the value of it as food for hogs &c. As to food for man I have nothing to say, having never tasted any, nor had occasion to, having other bread stuff enough. There is, however, one objection to it in my mind, which is a strong one, and that is, it is a weed among other grains. Yet still I might continue to raise it, did it not appear that barley, taking all things into consideration will be more profitable. Barley seems equally hardy—is more nutritive, and withstands completely the attacks of the grain worm. My observing friend C. F. Chase tells me he did, indeed, discover some few of the grubs inside of the husks of the barley, but they did not appear to injure the berry in the least degree.

The nutritive matter of Norfolk barley it seems, according to Sir Humphrey Davy, is but little short of wheat; say about as 955 to 920, which is double, probably, to that of Indian wheat. I have no chemical authority, however, at hand to determine this point.

But what encourages me the more to speak in favor of barley, is the susceptibility it has of being improved by judicious and skillful cookery. For some purposes at least, it may be so cooked that it is with difficulty distinguished from wheat flour, and if it is as much improved by hulling, as it is said to be, it may yet become a crop of equal importance with wheat. Get some of it and try it, brother farmers if you have not already, and I believe if you give it a fair chance, you will have no reason to complain of being "humbugged."

J. H. J.

Peru, Feb. 1840



## THE VISITOR.

CONDUCTED BY CYRIL PEARL.

## LECTURES ON EDUCATION.

## RESOURCES OF THE STATE, &amp;c

As enquiries are frequently made by letters and otherwise in relation to our Lectures, we deem it necessary to explain their nature and design and the policy we have chosen to adopt in giving them.

In 1827 on entering the State of Maine it required but little examination of particulars to perceive that the views previously adopted, & which were common in the region of our birth place, were very erroneous in relation to the resources and the characteristics of the state. Having spent one winter in teaching in a town forty miles north of Bangor and passing over the territory in the region, a strong desire was felt to see more of the state and its inhabitants. This feeling together with a desire to visit schools and to study the subject of general education, led to spending the next winter in extensive rambles for this purpose. Two other vacations were spent in similar excursions which extended into the several New England states, and the state of New York. These examinations of schools and institutions of various descriptions led to the preparation of a course of lectures on Education which were extensively given in vacations and at other times for two or three years. Pastoral duties and labors in various agencies then interrupted them for a time, but the agencies leading us over all the New England states gave farther opportunities for examination and comparison of the facilities in these several states for employing and sustaining a population, and for training up a vigorous, intelligent, happy and useful race of men. The conviction has been strongly forced upon us that the State of Maine in these respects has been greatly undervalued both by her own citizens and by those of the other states. There are resources and facilities here for giving profitable employment and support and means of education to a great population, and there is no good reason why the capacity of these natural capabilities should not be fully and fairly tested. With fifty inhabitants to the square mile, which is less than that of Connecticut in 1820, Maine would have a population of at least 1,600,000. With 70 to the square mile which is but a fraction more than Massachusetts had in 1820 Maine would have a population of 2,300,000. There is no good reason why Maine should not ultimately have this amount and give ample employment and means of support. It is then of vital importance that these resources should be understood and that our systems of education should be matured and carried forward with such efficiency that the whole mass of the rising generation shall be able to understand, and appreciate, and develop these resources, and thus lay the foundations of a permanent prosperity. A system of universal education efficiently conducted is absolutely necessary to secure such a result and no time should be lost in maturing and perfecting such a system. To contribute something towards this result is the design of our lectures on education and the Resources of the State, and the true policy is evidently to make such lectures public, and reach as large a portion of the community as practicable.

Especially is it desirable, if possible that the attendance should not be restricted by tickets, as this course would exclude large numbers who most need to be aroused on such subjects. We have therefore chosen to pursue the course of giving public lectures, and leave the subject of compensation in the hands of those who attend upon them, to be raised by voluntary effort. We have found it safe to do thus where the subject could be fairly explained, and understood. If the lectures are deserving of support there will generally be found a sufficient degree of moral sentiment, and sense of propriety, to do what is necessary in sustaining them, and if not worthy of support we have no disposition to persist in the severe labors demanded to give them extensively in the state.

Our course on education consists of four lectures, and it has been usual to give a full explanation of the design of the lectures at the first one, and the audience, at this, or the second lecture, adopt measures to sustain them. With very few exceptions this course has secured a large and increasing audience, and even among the scattered population of our farming towns, we are generally favored with meeting houses well filled, for the four successive evenings. In some few cases compensation has been inadequate, but generally it is such as to give a comfortable support, and the hearty co-operation of the different religious denominations, and the generous hospitality every where manifested, contribute greatly to the pleasures of even the severest labors to which such a course of effort must subject one.

The lecture on the Resources, population, institutions interests and prospects of the State, is designed to illustrate the position that the state has resources and natural facilities which may with proper management, give employment and support, to a population as large, as vigorous, intelligent and virtuous as any territory of equal extent in the world. It is our pres-

ent purpose to visit various parts of the state for the discussion of the the topics embraced in these lectures and to study the elements of productive industry, and prosperity now in operation. The result of such investigation we shall endeavor to communicate as circumstances will permit.

EXCURSIONS IN MAINE.  
HALLOWELL.

This town like Augusta lies on both sides of the Kennebec, and is also very much engaged in mercantile pursuits. The territory too is small compared with the towns generally, but it had by the census of 1837 a population of 4494. In 1830 it was 3964.—Number of school districts is 18 and of scholars according to the returns, 1,962. The number represented as taught by masters 600; taught by mistresses 594. There is here manifest as well as in Augusta a wide difference between the numbers in school and the numbers enrolled. There were raised in 1838 in Hallowell 2070 1-4 bushels of wheat and 3944 1-2 bushels of corn. There are some excellent farmers in this town, and some who have perhaps done as much to introduce improved breeds of stock as any in the state. While in the region we saw some beautiful animals owned by Mr. J. W. Hains. They were exhibited near the state house in Augusta, and attracted a good deal of attention from the members of the Legislature.

Among them was a Durham short horn bull with a slight mixture of the Bakewell and Hereford breed which at 18 months weighed 1067. A Heifer of same age which weighed at 18 months 860. Three cows having more of the Bakewell and Hereford breeds than the bull. These were from 6 to 8 years of age and one of them weighs 1218 lbs. A calf and another animal under two years were very fine models and show skill in training them. Mr. Hains supposes that the Bakewell and Hereford breeds mixed with the Durham give a better constitution for our climate than the full blood Durham. Several animals of the swinish race had the honor of being drawn in a crib upon a long sled, and were very much admired. These were of the Bedford and Berkshire bloods, some pure, and others crosses. One characteristic of all these animals was their perfect docility, indicating that they had been kindly treated. The habits and dispositions of animals depend very much upon the treatment they receive. But we dwell longer than is necessary on these, as they were thus brought to notice. Doubtless other good farmers in the region could exhibit similar specimens of their skill. A succession of events about the time of our visit exhibited the liberality of the citizens of Hallowell. The first was an effort for the Education Society which secured some \$200 from one religious society beside pledges to a considerable amount to be paid annually for some years. Then an effort for the Temperance cause in which different societies participated and secured probably \$100 more.

After this the annual meeting of the Anti-Slavery society was held and about \$250 was raised by the assembly, the Hallowell citizens doubtless contributing their full share. Immediately after this an effort for the American Board on the Sabbath secured in one congregation about \$400.

Immediately subsequent to this, the Fair for the benefit of seamen, gotten up by the Young Ladies Sewing circle collected nearly \$300. This lasted two evenings but the preparations, had employed many active hands for sometime previous. The town Hall was very tastefully fitted up for the occasion and although two of our own humble lectures were prevented by the arrangement the personal inconvenience might be well submitted to for the sake of those whose home is on the deep, and for the exhibition of so much taste and skill as the exhibition presented.

Augusta and Hallowell have suffered from the land speculations less than some other villages, but the general stagnation of business is felt here, as well as elsewhere. The granite quarries in Hallowell have been extensively wrought and large quantities shipped beside the immense amount used in building the state house, Arsenal, Insane retreat and other buildings, piers &c. in the neighborhood. Will the proprietors furnish us with facts by which we can give our readers a just idea of its past operations?

## GARDINER.

This town lies on the western shore of the Kennebec, and does not like Hallowell and Augusta, extend across it. The village of Gardiner presents a business like appearance, having a good water power and mills, manufactories &c. in addition to its stores, wharves, and other facilities for commerce. This town has grown considerably of late, and in prosperous times, is in possession of facilities which may give employment to a much larger population. In 1830 the census gives

\* We cannot send this to the printer without appending a note acknowledging with gratitude in behalf of Mrs. P. and little son, of a collection of beautiful and useful articles from ladies of the fair as tokens of respect and affection. They will be cherished mementoes of the short but agreeable visit to that village.

a population of 3709, and in 1837 the number was 4470. There are 17 school districts and 1985 scholars of whom 1037 are represented as taught by masters in the winter, and 1020 are represented as the number taught by females. It is manifest that the returns of our school districts in the state are liable to leave a wrong impression in reference to the number in actual attendance in the several towns. In some towns there are no schools taught by masters in summer and none by mistresses in winter, while in others it is otherwise. The returns therefore specifying the number who attend masters and mistresses do not give the number in winter or in summer in all cases. We know not therefore with accuracy the number that either class of schools gives the actual number attending. Estimates made from these returns are very likely to be wrong, as to the proportion of scholars actually in school.

It is also worthy of remark that in villages the number in school is much smaller than the number allowed by law to attend. Several causes contribute to this.

1. The schools continue much longer than in a scattered population and consequently scholars may be prepared to leave school at an earlier period.

2. There are usually private schools which have a considerable number of scholars.

3. There is usually in such cases less of interest in the public schools and consequently a neglect to secure the high qualifications demanded in giving efficiency to such schools.

4. There are more temptations for the scholars to neglect the school in villages than in a scattered population.

5. It is more common to find families in dependent circumstances in villages and who neglect the education of their children than in a scattered population.—The number of intemperate heads of families in villages is usually larger than in towns more remote.—There is consequently a necessity for a more vigorous effort to secure good schools in villages than elsewhere and to endeavor to secure the attendance of scholars. The want of steady employment for boys in such villages when not in school is a serious evil; hazardous to their morals as it is injurious to the interest of schools. How far these general principles are applicable to the villages of Augusta, Hallowell and Gardiner, the citizens can better judge than a stranger. But a limited examination left upon us the conviction, that a large number of children and youth in these villages are growing up without necessary instruction, either in public or private schools.

The Gardiner Lyceum has been for many years known as a literary institution. It has an interesting collection of curiosities. For a time its operations were suspended but is now under the care of Messrs. Whitman and Winnet, the former as Principal having charge of the classical department and the latter of the English department. The trustees also in their circular engage that such assistants, male and female, as may be necessary, will be secured. The village Lyceum, a voluntary association, has its weekly lectures and brings together large audiences. In the Town Hall where their meetings were held we had occasion to give lectures on Education and resources of the state. In Gardiner we had occasion, as frequently in other places, to answer enquiries relative to the construction of a new school house about to be erected.

In this town 3854 bushels of wheat, and 5262 bushels of corn were raised in 1838, and the interests of Agriculture are manifestly advancing. There are several religious societies which have regular sabbath and occasional services, and a good degree of interest is manifested in supporting the religious and benevolent movements necessary for the promotion of a happy state of society.

## PITTSTON.

This town lies opposite to Gardiner and although it has not so extensive a village, it is a place of very considerable business. Several vessels are usually built here in a year. Two or three were on the stocks at the time of our brief visit, and preparations for others were in progress. A good number of enterprising seamen and masters of vessels are furnished from this town, and the various departments of industry common in other towns here receive attention. A steam saw-mill near the village manufactures a considerable amount of lumber, and another small engine is used for driving turning lathes, circular saws and other machinery for the manufacture of bedsteads on an extensive scale. Large quantities of high post bedsteads are manufactured here and at Gardiner shipped to southern ports. The population of Pittston in 1830 was 1800. In 1837 it was 2121. Sixteen school districts are reported and 911 scholars, 540 of whom are reported as taught by masters.

The quantity of wheat reported here was 1709 bushels, and of corn 3198. These river towns ship hay and potatoes so easily that less is thought of raising breadstuffs than if these could not be more easily secured by exchanging the above named productions.—Having had little opportunity of previous acquaintance with the farming operations in this town, we can not speak of the stock or other items pertaining to good farming. We saw here a fine collection of shells, and



other natural, and artificial curiosities, gathered by one of these enterprising shipmasters\* from China, Japan, Java and other Eastern countries. It is very pleasant to meet with such collections.

\* Capt. A. Follansbee.

### SUMMARY.

**THE WORLD OF MUSIC.** We have received a new paper with this title, published by J. W. Moore, Bel-falls Falls, Vt. at one dollar per annum. This work is devoted exclusively to music, and musical matters, and promises to give a choice collection of both vocal and instrumental music in each number. We are not a judge of these things, so we handed it over to one who is, and the verdict is strongly in its favor, so we take the liberty of recommending it to all our music loving and music making friends and hope they will give it a helping hand.

**ERRATUM.**—In No. 5, of the present volume, page 36, in the statement of Rufus Moody on Peas, 9th line from the bottom, instead of "one and one-half acres," read *half an acre*.

From the N. Y. Journal of Commerce.

**ARRIVAL OF THE GREAT WESTERN.** Forty-three days later from Europe. The steamer Great Western, Capt. Hosken, reached the wharf about 12 o'clock to-day, (March 7,) bringing London papers to the evening of the 19th ult. and Bristol to the 20th.

The quotations for cotton are a half penny cheaper than at our previous dates early in January. Flour is a shilling a barrel cheaper. Money is cheaper and more plenty. In France manufacturing was bad.

Camphor gum had risen very much on account of the news from China. So had teas.

The Bank of England had reduced the rate of interest to 5 per cent. Money was plenty both in London and Paris.

The marriage of Queen Victoria to Prince Albert of Saxe Coburg, was celebrated on the tenth of February, with the utmost magnificence. From that date onward congratulatory addresses were poured in from every quarter.

The finances of the English government appear to be in a bad condition.

A division in the House of Commons terminated unfavorably to the Ministers, which seemed to show that they hold their power by a feeble tenure.

There is nothing important from Algiers. The French were holding Abd-el Kader in check, and about to send an expedition of ten thousand men into his own territory.

The Turkish and Egyptian question continues unsettled.

The breach between the English and Chinese is now so wide, that it will be difficult to heal it, with or without a war. The Chinese are extremely sensitive in regard to the death of any of their people by violence, especially if committed by foreigners; and nothing will appease them but the life of the offender.

We take it for granted that the British trade with China will be suspended for a time; and it is not improbable that a blockade will ensue,—which, while it lasts, will put a stop to all other foreign trade with China. The next advices from that country will be awaited with much interest.

Lost wealth may be regained by a course of industry, the wreck of health repaired by temperance—forgotten knowledge restored by study—alienated friendship soothed into forgiveness—even forfeited reputation won back by penitence and virtue. But who ever again looked upon his vanished honor—recalled his slighted years and stamped them with wisdom—or effaced from heaven's record, the fearful blot of a wasted life.

### STATE OF MAINE.

BY THE GOVERNOR.

#### A PROCLAMATION

FOR A DAY OF PUBLIC HUMILIATION, FASTING AND PRAYER.

When we reflect upon the goodness of God, and our own unworthiness—a Father's untiring benevolence, and our ingratitude—the reasonableness of his commands, and our disobedience—the gift of his son for our Salvation, and our neglect of the instructions of the Gospel—the distinguished privileges which as a community we enjoy, and our forgetfulness of the love which conferred them, we see abundant cause, for bowing before the Mercy Seat, and in humility, and deep contrition of heart, supplicating Divine forgiveness.

At the opening of the season also, when about preparing to cast the seed into the ground, and to enter anew upon the varied enterprises of another year, we are forcibly reminded of our dependence upon the Providence of God, and are admonished to look up to him for that blessing, without which the efforts of men are utterly in vain.

With these views therefore, and in accordance with

a time honored and hallowed custom, originating with our Pilgrim Fathers, I have appointed, by the advice of the Council, THURSDAY the ninth day of April, next, as a day for public HUMILIATION, FASTING AND PRAYER. And the people of this State are requested, to spend the day in such religious services as they may deem suitable to the occasion, abstaining from all recreation and labor inconsistent therewith.

Done at the Council Chamber this second day of March in the year of our Lord eighteen hundred and forty, and in the sixty-fourth year of the Independence of the United States of America.

JOHN FAIRFIELD.

By the Governor.

PHILIP C. JOHNSON, Sec'y. of State.

Mrs. Esther Longley of Greene, in this county, has presented Gov. Fairfield with a cheese weighing 287 pounds, as a testimonial of her regard for his valor in defending our northeastern territory last winter. Mrs. Longley received the first premium of the Ken. Co. Ag. Society for this cheese.

There is a rumor that Mexico is in treaty with England for the cession of California to the latter. This is a vast territory.

The House of Representatives of Indiana have passed a bill abolishing imprisonment for debt by a large majority.

The Hon. William A. Hayes has been appointed Judge of Probate for York from the 1st of March, when his term of office expired by Constitutional limitation.

The amount of criminal business before the District Court now setting in this city, is unusually large. The grand Jury have found, we understand, thirty-four bills of indictment—the largest number, probably, ever found in this County.—Portland Argus.

**Lexington Pork.** Eight hogs fatted and slaughtered in Lexington, by Elias Phinney, Esq., were delivered at the provision store of Mr George Munroe, at the corner of Fleet and Ann streets, this morning, where they can be seen. The largest weighs 763 pounds, the smallest 430 pounds, average weight 511 pounds.—Boston Post.

The number of paupers in the Philadelphia Alms House, on Monday last, was 1990.

**Cruelty.** A man in New York, named Seaman, has been bound over in \$500, for beating a horse unmercifully with a stick of wood.

A recent Grand Jury of New Orleans protested in the strongest manner against Lotteries, as full of evil tendencies for the community. Have they just found it out?

**A Turk.**—A fellow, named Ambrose Cassidy, was sentenced on Wednesday, to one year's imprisonment, in the New York Penitentiary, for beating both his wives.

**Men hung to a Tree.**—Latest of the Mexicans. The following is an extract of a letter, dated Flore's Rancho, Jan. 29, 1840:—"There is no longer any doubt about the murder of Col. Johnson and his men, by a party of Centralists under Cordova. Their bodies were seen hanging to a tree by some Americans who came into the camp the day before I left. I was at Comaga the day he left that place, a few days before Christmas. He was furnished with horses and provisions by the Alcade for the road."

I believe that it was not a rib which was borrowed from Adam to form Eve, but his tongue, and that it is not our fault if we speak too much. So says a pretty woman.

An Officer said to Col. Wellesly (son of the Duke of Wellington,) passed through here yesterday on his way from Canada to Fredericton. He is said to be the bearer of Dispatches, of what purport we have not heard. This gentleman stated at the Hotel that the Mail Carrier had been fired at on the Temisquatta Portage, and that the ball had passed through the back part of the neck. He succeeded however in carrying the mail in safety to his station. We have not heard whether the wound is considered to be dangerous. Various conjectures are afloat as to the motives that could influence such a wanton outrage.—Woodstock Times of Feb. 29.

**A Screamer.** There is a young lady of 'sweet sixteen,' down the Seneca River, who cuts her two cords of wood per day, when not too much engaged in household affairs. Being at school the other day, she settled some difference between herself and the schoolmaster by trundling him head first out of the house and closing the door upon him. What a glorious remedy for the 'hard times' such a 'companion in arms' would be.—State Journal.

**General bankrupt Law.** Mr Webster has taken the lead, in the Senate of the United States, in introducing the elements of a bill for a general bankrupt law, which has been so loudly called for from all parts of the country. Members of both political parties approve of the measure generally; and if no law is passed during the present session, the subject will be thoroughly discussed, and the whole matter be put in a train for prompt legislative action next winter.

The substance of Mr. Webster's plan is, that it shall be applicable to all insolvent persons, so that both debt-

or and creditor can avail themselves of its provisions; the former to discharge himself from debt upon a faithful application of all his property, and the latter to compel such application—that any fraud or connivance in obtaining the discharge, should render it void—that all creditors proving their debts against the insolvent, shall share pro rata in his property; debts to the U. S. only having a preference over all others—that debts falling due at a future day may be proved with others, reserving a proper discount—that any person proceeded against as a bankrupt by his creditors, shall be entitled to a trial by jury—and that no person shall receive a discharge under the act, who it shall be proved has lost money to a certain amount by betting or gaming.

A letter from Fort Fairfield states that 16 more horses, with their drivers, &c. were taken on the Aroostook on the 3d inst. The property belonged to trespassers on that territory. The Democrat states that a mob armed with axes, attempted to recover the property, but were compelled to beat a retreat.

Hon. Samuel Cony has been appointed Judge of Probate for Penobscot county, in place of Hon. Wm. D. Williamson, whose term expired by constitutional limitation.

Hon. Jona. Thayer of Camden, succeeds Hon. Alfred Johnson in the Probate Judgeship of Waldo county, for the like reason.

**A cure for the Whooping Cough.**—A teaspoonful of castor oil to a teaspoonful of molasses; a teaspoonful of the mixture to be given whenever the cough is troublesome. It will afford relief at once, and in a few days it effects a cure. The same remedy relieves the croup, however violent the attack.—Nat. Int.

A Justice of the Peace in Baltimore lately gave 35 cents out of his own pocket, in order to settle a law suit which he was called on to decide, and the matter of which in dispute amounted to that sum. The man is too good to be a 'Squire in such times as these.

The warm weather has invited upward the shad. No less than ninety-six of these seasonable fish were taken a few nights since in the State of Delaware, and sent to Philadelphia.

**Important Discovery.**—Capt. Chauncey Treat of East Hartford, has discovered a complete remedy against the ravages of the canker worm, simply by encircling the tree at the surface of the ground with Scotch snuff. The writer of this article has examined the trees on Captain Treat's premises, and found the circle of snuff completely fringed with thousands of dead worms. These trees were all tarred, and where the snuff was used no worms appeared on the tar, and where the snuff was omitted the insects nearly covered the tar.—Hartford Cour.

**Trial for Murder.**—The Superior Court for Middlesex county, Judge Sherman presiding, commenced its session on Tuesday last. Amos G. Thomas, was arraigned for the murder of Mr. Burr, of Haddam, by way-laying, shooting and robbing him, in the town of Clinton some time last fall. The Grand Jury found a true bill, and the trial commenced yesterday. It will probably continue for several days.—New Haven Herald.

**Hydrophobia.**—We learn from the Cincinnati Republican, that a young man died, in that city, on Friday last, of this painful disease. He had been bitten by a rabid dog, in July last, and, as it is stated, did not experience any ill effects from the bite, until a day or two previous to his death.

### LEGISLATURE OF MAINE.

In Senate, Thursday March 5, the order relative to the committal of the Revised Statutes to joint select committees was indefinitely postponed. The same disposition was made of the order from the House requesting the Senate to transmit to that body the Manuscript Titles of the Revised Laws.

In the House, passed to be engrossed—bill to change the names of certain persons. The House went into committee of the whole on the Seboomook bill, Mr. Bennett in the chair. The discussion on this bill occupied the greater part of the day. The committee rose, reported progress and obtained leave to sit again.

In Senate, Friday, March 6, bill to divorce Ebenezer and Mary Cobb was taken up, and indefinitely postponed. Legislation inexpedient—an order relative to the collections of school District taxes.

In the House, resolve authorizing the County Commissioners of York to expend money in building and repairing bridges in Buxton and Hollis, was read a third time and indefinitely postponed.

In Senate, Saturday, March 7. Finally Passed—Resolves in favor of Levi Foss—authorizing a loan in behalf of the State—directing the Attorney General to perform certain duties—in favor of Amelia Wood—of Stephen Rowell et als.—of Rendoll Whidden—of Benj. Chadbourn—repealing part of the resolve of March, 1839, authorizing a loan in behalf of the State.

Referred to next Legislature—Resolve in favor of Samuel Holden—of Elisha Hilton—of St. George's Island—all for a portion of the School Fund.



In the House—Bill to prevent disturbances in schools was referred to the committee on Literature, &c.

Leave to withdraw—on petition of S. W. Smith, and W. R. Flint—Benj. Manter, 2d.

Bills to reduce the capital stock of Maine Bank, and of Bank of Portland, were referred to the committee on Banks and Banking, yeas 85, nays 62.

In Senate, Monday, March 9, bill to divide the town of Orono, and incorporate therefrom the towns of Oldtown and Stillwater, came from the House so amended as to insert the name of Orono wherever Stillwater occurs in the bill. The Senate adopted the amendment, and passed the bill to be engrossed in concurrence. Leave to withdraw—on petition of Timothy Boutelle et als. for gun-house in Waterville.—Bill to incorporate the Almgash Company was indefinitely postponed.

In the House, Mr. Deering, by leave, introduced a bill to suspend, for a limited time, the small bill law. Referred to the Committee on Banks and Banking.—Bill to diffuse the benefits of vaccination, was indefinitely postponed, on motion of Mr. Delesdernier.

In Senate, Tuesday March 10, Mr. Robinson, by leave introduced a resolve in favor of Waterville College, (providing that when 40,000 shall have been secured by individual subscription, a grant of a township of land shall be made by the State, in aid of the institution,) which was twice read and after some discussion, passed to be engrossed. Finally passed—Resolve in favor of John A. Dill, for pension.

In the House, the bill to abolish the office of Surveyor General, after some discussion, was passed to be engrossed, yeas 83, nays 45.

In Senate, Wednesday March 11, an order was introduced, and passed, providing that a joint select committee be appointed to sit in the recess of the Legislature to examine the Revised Statutes and report upon the same on the first day of the adjourned session.—Bill to promote the sale and settlement of the public lands was indefinitely postponed. Bill to establish the Shiretown of the County of Piscataquis was referred to the next Legislature.

In the House—Legislation inexpedient—on an order directing an inquiry into the recent seizure of teams and supplies belonging to Bull and others, for an alleged trespass upon the public lands.

**Mysterious.**—A curious discovery has been made by some workmen employed in erecting houses on the site of the old Calaboose. That ancient building, which dates far back into the Spanish times, was recently pulled down and the ground on which it stood sold out to private individuals. The purchasers immediately commenced improvements upon the property, being valuable, from its location in the centre of the city. In the course of operations to this effect, it was found necessary to dig several feet under the surface to lay a substratum for the walls of the houses about to be built. The laborers in excavating at a particular spot, discovered that their progress was retarded by some hard substance, which resisted any impression from the working-tools. On examination, the resisting substance was found to be a bar of iron. Curiosity was excited. The excavation was extended—another and another bar or hoop of iron was discovered, and at length a space in the bottom of the hole that had been dug gave way, or rather sunk, and disclosed between the hoops of iron the interior of a *dungeon*.

The excavations into the old vaults discovered behind the calaboose were continued yesterday, and the chain gang were employed digging out the mud and rubbish. Nothing was found that could lead to any knowledge of their history, and after digging about six feet into a strongly arched passage, the workmen were stopped by an iron door, and the labor was abandoned until to-day, when the search will be continued.

An old creole woman, upward of one hundred years of age, it is said, remembers that upon this spot stood a building in which Jesuits resided; and the most plausible supposition that can be arrived at, is that these strong vaults were prepared as places of deposit for valuable manuscripts and other precious things, in case of war or danger placing their establishment in jeopardy. That they were designed for some more than ordinary purpose is evident from the massive iron archings, and careful mason work used in their construction. It will take but little labor to explore these recesses carefully, and a single relic found would amply repay investigation. They should be searched at any rate, that false constructions may not be left to perplex the public mind.—*N. O. Picayune.*

**Fortunate Escape.** The Sandy Hill Herald states, that a little girl aged four years, fell out of the garret window of the Northern Hotel in that place, and on approaching the ground plumped into a hoghead of water which stood under the window, and was rescued without the slightest injury.

Peach trees were in full bloom at New Orleans on the 10th of Feb.

A deaf and dumb man was run over and killed lately, by a locomotive on the Utica railroad.

Five seamen were lately convicted of mutiny in New York and sentenced to pay a fine of \$100 each and five years imprisonment.

The Hudson has been for some days navigable to Albany.

Upwards of thirty thousand tons of ice was exported from Charleston during the last year.

### Married,

In Bangor, Col. Alfred J. Stone, of Brunswick, to Miss Margaret C. Orr, daughter of the late Hon. Benj. Orr, of Brunswick.

In Wilton, by A. S. C. Strickland, Esq. on Sunday evening, Feb. 9th, Mr. Samuel L. Hazard, of Boston, to Miss Olivia B. Woodman, of Wilton.

In Whitefield, Mr. Amasa Shephard, of Jefferson, to Miss Eloisa G. Arnold, of Hope.

In Sidney, Mr. Wm. Robbins, of Augusta, to Miss Susan P. Reynolds of Sidney.

### DIED,

In Newbury, Mass. on the 3d inst. Harriet, wife of Mr. Samuel Northend, and daughter of Francis Perley, Esq. of this town.

In Hallowell, 7th inst. Margaret, daughter of Bartholomew Nason, Esq. aged 19.

In Sumner, 22d ult. Capt. John Barrett, aged 55.

In Augusta, Mrs. Mary, widow of the late Daniel Savage, aged 80.

In Gardiner, Ann Webber Glidden, child of Samuel Glidden.

In Bath, Mrs. Ann Maria, wife of Amasa W. Mars, aged 38. Drowned, Henry, son of Dwelley Turner, aged 6 years.

In Carthage, Mr. Nathaniel Noyes, aged 52.

In Belfast, Sarah H. Crosby, aged 36.

### BRIGHTON MARKET.—Monday March 2, 1840.

(From the New England Farmer.)

At market 240 Beef Cattle, 10 pairs Working Oxen, 18 Cows and Calves, 500 Sheep.

**PRICES.**—Beef Cattle—Last week's prices were fully sustained, but without much improvement. A few extra were taken at \$7; first quality 6 75; second 6 25 a 6 50; third 5 25 a 5 75.

Working Oxen—No sales were noticed.

Cows and Calves—Dull; we noticed a few sales—\$23, 30, 38, and 40.

Sheep—Lots were sold at \$2 50, 3, 3 75, 4 50 a 5.

Swine—None at market.

### THE WEATHER.

Range of the Thermometer and Barometer at the office of the Maine Farmer.

1840.

Feb. 11 Thermom. Barometer. Weather. Wind.

6,	26	39	40	29,10	29,05	28,95	F. S. F.	N.
7,	28	45	15	29,00	28,85	29,10	F. S. F.	w. NNW.
8,	*1	26	23	29,35	29,35	29,25	F. F. F.	NW. SW.
9,	22	42	38	29,05	29,00	28,95	C. C. F.	SE. W.
10,	24	34	26	29,00	29,10	29,10	C. S. C.	NE. N.
11,	16	22		29,20	29,25	29,30	F. F. F.	NNW.
12,	15	28	30	29,45	29,50	29,50	F. F. F.	NW

F. for Fair weather; C. cloudy; S. snow; R. rain. The place of these letters indicate the character of the weather at each time of observation—viz. at sunrise, at noon, and at sunset. \* Below zero.

The direction of the wind is noted at sunrise and sunset.

A VALUABLE Yoke of young OXEN for sale by the subscriber. SAM'L. WOOD.

Winthrop, March 4, 1840.

### Farm Wanted.

ANY person who has a good farm, well stocked, situated in the county of Kennebec or adjacent thereto, who wishes to let the same for a term of 3 or 5 years on shares, may hear of an opportunity by giving notice in the Farmer immediately, or by addressing a line to JOSHUA ALLEN, Farmington. Satisfactory references will be given. March 2, 1840. 3w10

### Found,

A BUFFALO ROBE near the Congregationalist Meeting House, on the 11th of March, inst. The owner may find the same at the store of E. WHITMAN, JR. in this village, where it can be had by proving property and paying charges. SALMON SMITH.

Winthrop, March 12th, 1840. 10

### Pigs for Sale.

I HAVE on hand 20 pigs from J. W. HAINS' Berkshire boar. One litter 3 days old; the other, and a litter after my boar, 3 weeks old. I also expect pigs soon from the Tuscarora, and in June from Hains' Berkshire Boar. JOHN KEZER, JR.

Winthrop, March 12th, 1840. 10

### Morus Multicaulis or Chinese Mulberry.

FOR Sale by the subscribers a few thousand of the genuine Morus Multicaulis or Chinese Mulberry trees, from one to three years old. Also slips of the same, having been propagated for 4 years past in this County. They are believed to be much more hardy than those procured from the South.

A. & J. POPE.

Hallowell Cross Roads, 3d mo. 10th, 1840. 3w10

### Freedom.

NOTICE is hereby given that I have this day relinquished to my sons, JOHN A. FOSTER and TIMOTHY FOSTER, their time till they shall each arrive at the age of twenty-one years—that I shall claim none of their earnings, nor pay any debts of their contracting.

JOHN FOSTER.

Leeds, March 9, 1840.

3w10\*

NOTICE is hereby given, that by virtue of a licence from the Probate Court, there will be exposed for sale at the house of Widow CARR in East Readfield on Tuesday the fourteenth day of April next, at one o'clock, P.M. so much of the real estate of Benjamin Carr, Jr. late of Readfield in the County of Kennebec, deceased, as will produce the sum of four hundred and seventy dollars for the payment of his debts and incidental charges of sale. Said estate consists of one hundred acres of good land and good buildings, well watered, and is situated in East Readfield, on the County road. SAMUEL WHITE, Admr.

Winthrop, March 10th, 1840.

### Blanks.

THE following Blanks are kept constantly for sale at this office, viz: Mortgage, Warrantee and Quit claim Deeds—Writs—Executions—Confession Executions—Confessions—Copy of Judgment—Assessors' Commitments of Highway Taxes—Town Orders, and all other kinds of Blanks will be printed at short notice.

### SEARS GENUINE VEGETABLE PULMONARY BALSAMIC SYRUP OF LIVERWORT.

For cure of Consumptions, Coughs and Colds.

More than 75,000 bottles of this very valuable medicine has been sold, (principally in the State of Maine,) since it was first offered to the public by the original inventor and proprietor, J. B. Sears, a few years since.

It is undoubtedly superior to any other article offered to the public, as it seldom fails of giving relief where it is taken in due season.

Although the superior virtues of this medicine are well known, and its qualities highly approved by many of the most respectable of the Medical Faculty, the following certificates are added for the satisfaction of those who may be afflicted with these diseases for which it is designed, several others may be seen on the bill of directions accompanying each bottle.

The undersigned takes pleasure in mentioning the prompt and essential relief which he experienced in a severe attack on the lungs in January last, from the use of the Vegetable Pulmonary Balsamic Syrup of Liverwort; and cheerfully testifies that in his opinion, it is a most beneficial medicine in consumptive complaints, violent colds, or settled cough, and earnestly recommends this Medicine to all who are suffering under afflictions of this kind.

Thomaston, Feb. 16, 1831.

PHILIP ULMER.

Certificate of Dr. Goodwin, an experienced Physician of Thomaston.

I do hereby certify, that I have this day examined the composition of a Medicine prepared by John B. Sears of this town, which he calls Vegetable Pulmonary Balsamic Syrup of Liverwort, for the cure of Consumptions, Coughs, Colds, &c., and in my opinion it is superior to any Cough Drops that has come within my knowledge.

Thomaston, April 2, 1831.

JACOB GOODWIN.

The undersigned having purchased the original recipe for this syrup, has made arrangements to have Agents in the principal towns in New England supplied with it. Purchasers will be careful that the bill of directions are signed by H. Fuller or S. Page, and the name of the former stamped in the seal, and my own name written on the outside label.

T. B. MERRICK.

### Real Estate at Auction.

PURSUANT to a licence from the Hon. Henry W. Fuller, Judge of Probate for the County of Kennebec, the subscriber will sell at public Auction on the fourteenth day of April next, at one of the clock in the afternoon on the premises, all the real Estate whereof JOHN ADAMS, late of Greene, died seized and possessed, it being the homestead farm situated in said Greene, consisting of sixty acres of land with a good and commodious one-story dwelling house and barn with other out buildings well finished. Said farm is pleasantly situated on the County road leading to Augusta, and at the centre of the said town of Greene, with an excellent wood lot.

Also a pew in the Baptist meeting house belonging to said estate.

The terms of sale to be made known at the time and place of sale.

JABEZ PRATT, Admr. on said estate.

Greene, March 12, 1840.

3w10



## POETRY.

Original.  
LINES

composed on the death of a child of Moses B. Sears Esq. aged about two years.

And is she gone, that lovely one?  
Freed from this world of woe;  
No blighting winds, nor scorching sun,  
Shall cause a lowering brow.  
A bud had just begun to bloom,  
And spread its charms to view;  
The mower's scythe alas! too soon,  
With aim, deadly and true  
Encircled in its withering grasp,  
The gently opening flower;  
It yielded to the deadly stroke,  
And withered in an hour.  
A father's heart asunder rent,  
A mother's hope has fled;  
To see their lovely one so soon,  
Lie mouldering with the dead.  
Around they cast their watery eyes,  
A vacant spot they see;  
Where late they saw their lovely child,  
All happiness and glee.  
Those little sportive acts of hers,  
How oft are brought to mind;  
While in the gloomy shades of night,  
With dreariness combined.  
But she is gone those sparkling eyes,  
Are closed in death's embrace;  
Her active limbs no longer move,  
Nor smiles adorn her face.  
Sleep on fair one thy Maker's voice,  
Hath summoned thee away;  
No dreary cloud obscures thy sky,  
Bright as meridian day.  
For such your heavenly father says,  
Compose the blest in heaven;  
Then dry fond parents, up those tears,  
Nor let your hearts be riven.  
But kiss the rod and Him that hath  
The right to deal the blow;  
Her little spirit dwells with God,  
Freed from this world of woe.

Winthrop.

H.

Original.

## LINES ON THE DEATH OF AN INFANT.

Happy they  
Who find an early tomb;  
Their life a short and April day,  
Their death eternal bloom."

Weep for thee, Catherine? no: I am the last  
To weep that thy short pilgrimage is past,  
Thy crown of life is won without the fight,  
Thy unsought Savior welcomes thee to light,  
Ere sin or grief had touched thy stainless brow,  
Death set his seal!—no change can reach thee now.

Let those who will, lament the early dead,  
I hail them blest: for them no tears I shed:  
Far rather let the tear to those be given,  
Whose treasures are on earth and not in heaven.

Thou art not lost; thy Heavenly Father's care  
Has thee transplanted to a clime more fair,  
Where the young buds of virtue will expand,—  
No withering blight can reach that happy land.

Thy little grave will be a hallowed spot,  
Which love will cherish, and forget it not;  
Parental tenderness must yearn for thee,  
But I rejoice! young pilgrim, thou art free.

Feb, 1840,

ELIZABETH.

## MISCELLANEOUS.

Original.

## AVOID EXTREMES.

MR HOLMES:—I have an itching to write a few lines under this caption. There is a class, of which I am one, of some 3 or 400 individuals in this State, who find very great difficulty in observing this rule. I will mention a few of these extremes.

Some of us think that a child should never be punished at school, while others think that nothing but the ferule and birch will do the business. Few can apply a happy combination of suasion and punishment. One will have his children study such books as suits his taste, another cares not what his children do. Very hard to advise with the teacher. Once, it was customary for parents to make their children commit passages of the Bible and other books to memory as a sort of punishment, which certainly made good readers; now, the child must be sent to school for all of this.

Formerly, it was customary, if a boy got a sound flogging at school, to receive another at home, no matter what the crime might be, now a meeting must be called and the teachers expelled. No disposition to assist each other in the government of the school. It was once the case, that children were kept at home evenings, now, alas! they are seldom found there at all.

In the days of our fathers, the children were not allowed to find fault or tell tales out of school, now they are referred to as the organs of all the slander in the neighborhood.

Formerly, children were educated at home, and instructed at school, now, they must receive both from the same teacher.

Once it was customary for children to make obeisance to every person whom they met, now, it is difficult to pass the streets and be civilly treated.

Formerly, when the teacher visited a family, the children skulked into some corner through fear of the tyrant, now, some prodigy must be exhibited to bore the teacher to death. No such thing as suffering children to be seen and not heard. Once it was no uncommon thing for a young man to receive a sound thrashing in school, now if a stripling is spoken to his bosom is wounded. Very hard to find the mean of two extremes.

I well remember when books were so far above the comprehension of children that but few could understand them. Now, children must have five or six volumes to illustrate a single idea. No such thing as leaving anything to be explained by the teacher. Formerly it was customary to have but few studies in school, now, the instructor must teach everything. No disposition to make an estimate of the amount of time each scholar needs from the teacher and how much he gets.

Formerly it was customary to write a round plain hand of which even editors would not complain. Now, they can only guess out the meaning by counting the perpendicular lines and then applying them to some word that may give the meaning and may not. No disposition for a medium. Once we were taught to bend the fingers and rest the arm when writing. Now, we must keep the fingers stiff and move the whole arm. No use for joints in the fingers, they are too old fashioned.

Formerly they had some wretched buildings for a school house which was impossible to be made warm. Now the school house must be—

A.

Original.

## A CHAPTER ON SLANDER.

The slanderer's tongue is among the worst curses that ever befel a community. There is nothing dearer to men than a good name, seeing that they often buy it at the expense of their lives and fortunes. No man's character is safe in the neighborhood of the slanderer. "A good name is far above rubies," yet there is nothing so often assailed by the slanderer. The great and small, rich and poor, young and old, good and wicked are all generally exposed to the piercing darts of slander. It deforms every thing. The slanderer always keeps a hateful tribunal set up to judge the actions and even the intentions of men—searching their very hearts;—with great presumption it delights above all things in defaming the best men, and by its envenomed darts it brings innocence itself into suspicion, and makes truth difficult to be known of those who have been traduced by him. No man's character is safe—though he may be as pure as an angel of light. The malignity of the slanderer is carried to such a height that it poisons every thing. Some men, and women too, are as willing to slander their neighbors as they are to speak. They are never better pleased than when they begin to speak ill of others, and some even who profess to be clear of this sin will sometimes from prejudice favor it. Such conduct is as detestable as it is contrary to humanity. Alas, are we made to destroy one another? If I was to wish for authority, it would only be to silence the slanderer—it would only be to make sane laws against evil speaking, as severe as those which are enacted against murder and robbery.

The base slanderer is more to be dreaded than the highwayman. "He who steals my purse steals trash, but he who robs me of my good name takes all that is worth living for in this lower world." We shall find that the slanderer is guilty of envy, hatred, injustice, malice, treachery and cruelty. If the slanderer does not harm those whom he speaks ill of, it is only for want of the power.

COSMOPOLITE.

**Liability of Officers of Steamboats.** A judgment has been rendered in the Superior Court at Cincinnati, against the owners of the steamboat Danube, for \$23,000, for running into and sinking the McFarland; and another has been obtained by the owner of the latter against the pilot of the Danube, who was at the wheel at the time of the collision, for the sum of \$21,000. The

Republican says this settles the question of the personal liability of a pilot, who carelessly, intentionally, or from fright or ignorance, suffers his boat to come in collision with another.

## Plaster of Paris

BY the Cask, for sale by the subscriber.  
SAM'L CHANDLER.  
Winthrop, Feb. 25, 1840. w84

## Monmouth Academy.

THE Spring Term will commence on the 1st Monday in March and continue twelve weeks. It is still under the care of Mr. N. T. TRUE who will spare no pains to make it a profitable place of resort for such as wish to go through a systematic and thorough course of instruction.

As the Spring Term is the regular time for commencing the study of the Languages in this institution, it is very desirable that such as contemplate a classical course should be present at, or very near the opening of the Term, otherwise, they are advised to go to some other Institutions.

A Gentleman has been engaged to deliver a course of Lectures on Natural Philosophy. There will be a continuation of the course delivered the last term before the advanced class in Chemistry.

Young Ladies can hereafter enjoy the privileges of the Library free from additional expense.

Tuition.—In the General English Department \$3.00  
Higher do. and Classical do. 3.75  
5w7. N. PIERCE, Sec'y.

## Seed Corn.

THE Subscriber having a kind of Seed Corn which he fully believes it would be much to the interest of farmers to have a portion of to plant the ensuing spring, would give notice that he shall deposit some of it at the Office of the Maine Farmer in Winthrop, at Ledge & Co.'s store in Augusta, at Stanford & Co.'s, Gardiner, and at his house, where those who wish may be supplied.

E. FOLSOM.

Monmouth, Jan. 31, 1840.

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## Tuition School.

THE Subscriber informs his friends and the public that he will open a School in this village on Monday, Feb. 17, to continue eleven weeks. From his long experience and success in teaching, he flatters himself that he shall be able to give entire satisfaction to those who may place themselves under his instruction. Tuition, \$3.00 and \$3.50.

G. BAILEY.

Winthrop, Feb. 3, 1840.

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## Wayne Scythe Factory.

THE public are hereby informed that the WAYNE SCYTHE FACTORY is in full operation under the superintendence of Mr. G. N. GALE. Farmers & Traders can be supplied with scythes by the dozen or gross.

These scythes have become favorably known to the public and the proprietors can confidently recommend them as being second to none.

3w7.

## Clover Seed.

THE subscribers will give the market price for a few tons of prime Eastern Clover. Letters may be addressed to ELLIS & BOSSON, Seedsmen, No. 45, North Market Street, Boston.

March 4, 1840.

3w9

## The Maine Farmer,

And Journal of the Useful Arts,

IS PUBLISHED WEEKLY AT WINTHROP

BY NOYES &amp; ROBBINS;

E. HOLMES, EDITOR.

Price \$2.00 a year. \$2.50 will be charged if payment is delayed beyond the year. A deduction of 25 cents will be made to those who pay CASH in advance—and a proportionable deduction to those who pay before the publication of the 26th number, at which time payment is considered due.

Any kind of produce, not liable to be injured by frost, delivered to an Agent in any town in the State, will be received in payment, if delivered within the year.

Any person who will obtain six responsible subscribers, and act as Agent, shall receive a copy for his services.

No paper will be discontinued until all arrearages are paid, except at the option of the publishers; and when payment is made to an Agent, two numbers more than have been received, should be paid for.

A few short advertisements will be inserted at the following rates. All less than a square \$1.00 for three insertions. \$1.25 per square, for three insertions. Continued three weeks at one half these rates.

All letters on business must be free of postage.

When Agents make remittances it is very important to us that they distinctly state to whom the money is to be credited, and at what Post Office each paper paid for is sent, as we cannot otherwise well find the name on our books.